



Director of
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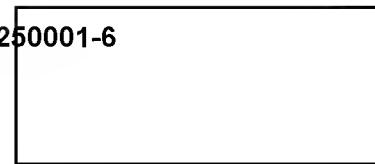
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BRIEFS AND COMMENTS

FRANCE-USSR: Giscard Visit

French President Giscard's three-day visit to Moscow, which ended Saturday, produced a very general agreement with the Soviet Union on the development of detente, a long-term economic, industrial, and technological cooperation agreement for 1980 to 1990, and a separate economic cooperation agreement for 1980 to 1985. [redacted]

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The communique issued at the end of the visit glossed over or avoided a range of issues, such as China, disarmament, and Africa, that divide the two countries and certainly must have merited considerable attention during the visit. President Brezhnev's acceptance of an invitation to visit Paris, however, demonstrates that both countries wish to continue the "special" link that has existed since the de Gaulle era. [redacted]

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Press reports of Brezhnev's activities during the visit indicate that he may not yet have fully recovered from the illness he came down with at the end of March. [redacted]

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YUGOSLAVIA-BULGARIA: The Macedonian Dispute

Tanjug, the official Yugoslav news agency, has rejected Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov's call for talks with President Tito. Zhivkov, in an address to the Bulgarian National Assembly last Friday, offered to meet with Tito to discuss issues separating the two Balkan neighbors--most notably the Macedonian dispute, which has intensified since the first of the year. Tanjug claims that Zhivkov has refused to recognize the existence of an independent Macedonian nationality in Bulgaria and has misrepresented Yugoslavia as the guilty party in the dispute. Belgrade insists that Sofia recognize Bulgaria's Macedonians before progress can be made in resolving the dispute. Bulgaria has raised the Macedonian issue in times of Soviet-Yugoslav strains to remind Belgrade of its vulnerabilities. Belgrade's response to Zhivkov appears designed to impress all listeners that Yugoslavia will not compromise its position on the Macedonian issue--or, by inference, on any of the issues currently separating Yugoslavia from the Soviets and their allies.

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